



Sources of Additional Funding

Having funding in addition to the USDA reimbursements can increase the success of your summer meals operations.

Additional funding opportunities can either cover costs of the administration of the program, when USDA reimbursements are not sufficient, or they can cover costs associated with items not allowable with the USDA reimbursement. Through programs administered by USDA Rural Development agencies and Housing and Urban Development (HUD), State programs that support housing and economic development, and foundations and other private sources, sponsors can develop a robust and financially stable operation. These funding sources will often have a specific focus. Some will fund only capital expenditures, while others may provide funding for operating costs.

Reminder: Additional sources of income that support the meal programs must be tracked and reported separately from Program funds!

USDA Rural Development

The USDA Rural Development Officer in each State can help identify potential funders. When developing a proposal and seeking funding it is important to identify: the needs the sponsor intends to address; the sponsor's plan for implementing the program; the legal entity that will apply for, receive, and account for the funds; and community stakeholders who support the plan.

Once a proposal is developed, sponsors should contact funders within their State and community. Stakeholders in support of the proposal may also be able to identify funding sources.

Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

To find information about HUD's Community Development Block Grant Program and local offices in your State, visit http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/about/local.

Additional information is available about HUD at <http://www.hud.gov> and about USDA Rural Development at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.



Building Partnerships is KEY

Successful sponsors have utilized a variety of approaches to control costs when operating a summer meals food service. To reduce transportation costs, for example, some organizations park mobile meals buses in the communities, near meal sites. They use just one van to deliver meals, one or two times a week or operate from a central kitchen, where meals are stored in donated cold storage facilities near each bus. As sponsors work with community partners, identify additional approaches that will work best for your programs and keep costs low.

USDA Resources

Budgeting for Success

Your budget is the key to understanding the financial side of SFSP. Like any well-run business, your SFSP needs a budget to help you establish priorities, make decisions, and know how your program dollars will be generated and spent. For more information, visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/cnd/SMT-BudgetingforSuccess.pdf>

Partner Organizations Resources

Share Our Strength's Grant Information:

- [Summer Meals Grants Memo](#) – This memo is a compilation of existing grant funding, directed at summer programming, summer meals programs, organization capacity, and program implementation. Please check the individual organizations' websites for more information.
- [Summer Meals Grants Webinar Recording-](#)
<http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/resources/Summer%20Grants.mp4>

Review these ideas and adopt the strategies that seem reasonable and compatible with your program. Sponsors and the general public should contact the appropriate State Agency for additional guidance. State agencies should contact their FNS Regional Office for additional guidance.

List of FNS Regional Offices: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-regional-offices>

List of State Agencies: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm>



Summer Meals Toolkit

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.